

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending and stand rejected. The Examiner's reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.


Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 – 4, 6 and 7 were rejected under the 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,671,020 for the reasons stated on page 2 of the Office Action.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection. However, to place the application in condition for allowance, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claim 5, which the Examiner has indicated as allowable. Claims 2 and 5 have been cancelled.

For the foregoing reasons, it is believed the above-identified application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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